weight percent of the alcohol, the coating layer of the metallic alkoxide solution becomes undesirably thick. A sputtering technique, a chemical vapor deposition (CVD) technique, a dip coating technique and other general-purpose coating techniques may be employed for the coating use. Among the techniques, the dip coating technique may be preferably used for coating the alkoxide solution onto the powder.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows, without prejudice:

1. (Four Times Amended) A positive active material for rechargeable lithium batteries, the positive active material comprising:

an active material component processed from a manganese-based compound, the manganese-based compound being selected from the group consisting of Li_xMnF_2, Li_xMnS_2, $Li_xMn_{1-y}M_yO_2$, $Li_xMn_{1-y}M_yO_{2-z}F_z$, $Li_xMn_{1-y}M_yO_{2-z}S_z$, $Li_xMn_2F_4$, $Li_xMn_2S_4$, $Li_xMn_{2-y}M_yO_{4-z}F_z$, and $Li_xMn_{2-y}M_yO_{4-z}S_z$, where $0<x<1.5$, $0.05\leq y\leq 0.3$, $z\leq 1.0$ and M is selected from the group consisting of Al, Co, Cr, Mg, Fe and La; and

a metallic oxide coated on the active material component, the metallic oxide comprising a metal selected from the group consisting of Mg, Al, Co, K, Na, Ca, Ti and Sr.

6. (Three Times Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the alkoxide solution is selected from the group consisting of Mg-alkoxide, Ti-alkoxide and Al-alkoxide.

Please add the following new claims:

9. (New) A positive electrode for rechargeable lithium batteries, the positive electrode comprising:

a plurality of active material particles processed from a manganese-based compound, the manganese-based compound being selected from the group consisting of Li_xMnO_2, Li_xMnF_2, Li_xMnS_2, $Li_xMn_{1-y}M_yO_2$, $Li_xMn_{1-y}M_yO_{2-z}F_z$, $Li_xMn_{1-y}M_yO_{2-z}S_z$, $Li_xMn_2O_4$, $Li_xMn_2F_4$, $Li_xMn_2S_4$, $Li_xMn_{2-y}M_yO_4$, $Li_xMn_{2-y}M_yO_{4-z}F_z$, and $Li_xMn_{2-y}M_yO_{4-z}S_z$, where $0<x<1.5$, $0.05\leq y\leq 0.3$, $z\leq 1.0$ and M is selected from the group consisting of Al, Co, Cr, Mg, Fe and La, and a metallic oxide coated on each of the active material particles,

the metallic oxide comprising a metal selected from the group consisting of Mg, Al, Co, K, Na, Ca, Ti and Sr;

wherein the positive electrode comprises the active material particles coated with the metallic oxide, and wherein the positive electrode is formed after the active material particles are coated with the metallic oxide.

10. (New) The positive electrode of claim 9 wherein the metallic oxide has a metal selected from the group consisting of Mg, Ti and Al.

11. (New) The positive electrode of claim 9, wherein the oxide has a thickness range of 1 to 1000 nanometers.

12. (New) The positive electrode of claim 9, wherein the quantity of metal content is in a range of 1 to 10 weight % of the oxide.